



Attorney's Docket No.: 06975-070001

#7/A
BH
6-14-01

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Gary CRANCE
Serial No. : 09/688,142
Filed : October 16, 2000
Title : ONLINE IMAGE PROTECTION

Art Unit : 2131
Examiner : Unknown

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED
MAY 15 2001
Technology Center 2100

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please amend claims 1-5, 8, 9, 12, 15, 18, 23-27, 30, 31, 36, and 42-51 as follows:

- 21
1. (AMENDED) A computer-implemented method of protecting content, the method comprising:
presenting an indicator that differs from the content and indicates the presence of the content;
preventing the user from perceiving the content while the indicator is being presented;
receiving a request from a user to access the content;
enabling a user to perceive the content based on the request received from the user; and
preventing the user from capturing the content.
 2. (AMENDED) The method of claim 1 wherein preventing the user from capturing the content includes preventing the user from capturing the content while perception of the content is enabled.
 3. (AMENDED) The method of claim 1 wherein the content is an image and the indicator includes a display area that has substantially the same size as the image and is positioned at substantially the same location as the image.